

# NEWS RELEASE

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## **Justice Department Announces Appointment of Rodger A. Heaton as United States Attorney for the Central District of Illinois**

Springfield, IL – The Justice Department today announced the appointment of Rodger A. Heaton to serve as the interim United States Attorney for the Central District of Illinois. Heaton will serve under an Attorney General Appointment for 120 days. He will succeed Jan Paul Miller, who will resign from the position on Wednesday, November 30, 2005.

Heaton began his career as a federal prosecutor in 1989 and served as an Assistant U.S. Attorney until December 2000. During that time, Heaton held a number of supervisory positions within the U.S. Attorney's Office, including supervisor of the Springfield office and Chief of the district's Appellate Division. Heaton also served as an Associate Independent Counsel with the Office of Independent Counsel from September 1997 until July 1998, supervising the preparation of briefs and oral argument on several complex constitutional, statutory, and common law issues in all levels of the federal court system.

From January 2001 to April 2003, Heaton worked as a Litigation Partner at Kirkland & Ellis in Chicago.

Heaton returned to the U.S. Attorney's Office in May 2003 as Chief of the Civil Division. In this capacity, Heaton handles a broad array of matters, including efforts related to health care fraud litigation, civil case intake, settlements, trial supervision, and appeals for all civil cases including federal tort claims, constitutional torts, employment discrimination, environmental, tax, bankruptcy, and collections.

In addition to his professional duties, Heaton has been an adjunct professor at the University of Illinois College of Law, where he taught courses in white collar crime. Heaton received a B.S. degree from the University of Illinois- Urbana, Champaign in 1981, and a J.D., *magna cum laude*, from the Indiana University School of Law in 1985.

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